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saveSFbay.org

August 19, 2010

Statement by David Lewis, Executive Director

Cargill and DMB's desperate tactics and lies continued yesterday, with another rabid attack against the oldest and largest environmental organization working to save San Francisco Bay. This developer will say anything and spend any amount to deceive the public, as it tries to reap profits by building 12,000 homes on Bay salt ponds that can and should be restored instead.

Cargill developer DMB was forced to retract its false accusations against Save The Bay yesterday. The company knew polling was being conducted throughout the Bay Area by the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority about wetland restoration throughout the Bay Area:

- DMB staff attended every public meeting of the Bay Restoration Authority, where the survey was designed and approved;
- DMB's own pollster, Fairbanks, Maslin, Maullin, Metz and Associates, is conducting the survey for the Bay Restoration Authority.

DMB's hypocrisy in attacking the restoration work of the Bay Restoration Authority is all the more notable because DMB in June *endorsed* state legislation (Assembly Bill 2103, authored by Jerry Hill – D, San Mateo) which clarifies how that agency may place a regional funding measure for the protection and restoration of San Francisco Bay wetlands before voters in the nine Bay Area counties.

Instead of shrill attacks on the organization that has been working for 50 years to protect and restore San Francisco Bay, Cargill and DMB should try being truthful about the impacts of its outrageous proposal on the Bay and on Redwood City and Bay Area residents.

The unprecedented paving of retired Bay salt ponds for development would prevent the restoration of crucial tidal marsh on a site that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified as a valuable addition to the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Cargill's proposed project would place 30,000 new residents on a site with no city services, vulnerable to sea level rise and flooding with no access to transit, boosting traffic on U.S.-101 and local roads. A recent financial study released by the developer touted spending by future salt pond residents, without any mention of significant associated costs for Redwood City in fire, police, levee maintenance, and the like.

Restoring the health of San Francisco Bay is vital to the Bay Area's quality of life and economy – Redwood City residents won't be fooled by Cargill and DMB's hysterical attacks and multimillion dollar public relations blitz.

Attachments



Statement From DMB Saltworks On Its Press Release Of August 18, 2010

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See Also

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REDWOOD CITY, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--It has come to our attention that we incorrectly listed the source of a poll cited in our press release earlier today. Save the Bay is not the source of the poll. We regret any misunderstanding this may have created.

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